



Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

GUIDELINES FOR SUBMITTING ARTICLE 15.2 NOTIFICATIONS

DECISION

Adopted at the meeting of 13-15 March 2024

The WTO Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade (the TBT Committee) adopted the following guidelines¹ and corresponding online format² for submitting Article 15.2 notifications, building on its previous decisions and recommendations relating to Article 15.2.

Guidelines for submitting Article 15.2 notifications

| Heading | Description |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| 1. Implementing actions | <p>The statement should cover the legislative, regulatory and administrative actions taken to implement the TBT Agreement. If the Agreement itself has been incorporated into domestic law, the statement should indicate how this has been done. In other cases, the statement should describe the content of the relevant laws, regulations, administrative orders, etc. All necessary references should also be provided.</p> <p>Members are encouraged to notify their National Quality Infrastructure laws and/or regulations and any subsequent changes.</p> |
| 2. Publication of a notice | <p>The statement should specify the names and websites of the publications used to announce that work is proceeding on draft technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures under Articles 2.9.1; 3.1 (in relation to 2.9.1); 5.6.1; 7.1, 8.1 and 9.2 (in relation to 5.6.1); and paragraphs J and L of Annex 3 of the Agreement.</p> <p>The statement should also specify measures and arrangements to ensure that central government and local government bodies preparing new technical regulations or conformity assessment procedures, or substantial amendments to existing ones, provide early information on their proposals in order to enable the Member in question to fulfil its obligations on notifications under Articles 2.9, 2.10, 3.2, 5.6, 5.7 and 7.2 of the Agreement.</p> |

¹ In the Ninth Triennial Review, the TBT Committee agreed "to request the Secretariat to develop a notification format under Article 15.2 that allows Members to notify information that underpins or assists in the implementation of the TBT Agreement ([G/TBT/46](#), para.6.29.h(i)).

² The format is available in the notification submission dashboard in [ePing](#).

| Heading | Description |
|---|--|
| 3. Comments | <p>The statement should specify the expected length of time allowed for presentation of comments in writing on technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures under Articles 2.9.4 and 2.10.3; 3.1 (in relation to 2.9.4 and 2.10.3); 5.6.4 and 5.7.3; 7.1, 8.1 and 9.2 (in relation to 5.6.4 and 5.7.3); and paragraph L of Annex 3 of the Agreement.</p> <p>Members are encouraged to notify information on where comments on draft technical regulations can be submitted, such as online consultation platforms.</p> |
| 4. Publication of final texts | <p>The statement should specify the names and websites of the publications in which the texts of adopted technical regulations, standards, and conformity assessment procedures are published under Article 2.11; 3.1 (in relation to 2.11); 5.8; 7.1, 8.1 and 9.2 (in relation to 5.8); and paragraph O of Annex 3 of the Agreement.</p> <p>If available, website information providing an overview of a Member's relevant technical regulations should be provided.</p> |
| 5. Contact information³ | |
| (i) Enquiry Point(s) | <p>The statement should specify the role and contact details of the enquiry point(s) foreseen in Articles 10.1, 10.2, and 10.3 of the Agreement with an indication as to whether it is/they are fully operational; if for legal or administrative reasons more than one enquiry point is established, complete and unambiguous information on the scope of responsibilities of each of them should be specified.</p> |
| (ii) Notification Authority | <p>The statement should specify the role and contact details of the central government authority which is, as foreseen in Article 10.10, responsible for the implementation on the national level of the provisions concerning notification procedures. If, for legal or administrative reasons the responsibility for notification procedures is divided among two or more central government authorities, unambiguous information on the scope of responsibility of each of these authorities should be provided.</p> |
| (iii) Other Agencies | <p>The statement should specify the role and contact details of any other agencies that have specific functions under the Agreement</p> |
| 6. Additional information | <p>This field can be used to submit any information that is not covered by the fields above. If this is a revision to an earlier Article 15.2 notification, key changes compared to the original statement could be highlighted here.</p> <p>Should Members wish to announce the availability of a comment period for certain implementing actions, for example on national quality infrastructure, they can do so by issuing an Addendum to their Article 15.2 notification.</p> |

³ The latest information provided by Members is available in [ePing](#).